

PRESS RELEASE

Colorado Department of Labor and Employment 633 Seventeenth Street, Denver, CO 80202
(303) 318-8004



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Contact: Bill Thoennes at (303) 318-8004 or
Cher Haavind at (303) 318-8003
Web: <http://www.colorado.gov/cs/Satellite/CDLE-EmployTrain/CDLE/1248095319241>
<http://www.colorado.gov/cdle/youth>

TRINIDAD WORKFORCE CENTER READY TO STAGE “YOUTH ROCKS TRINIDAD” JOB FAIR FOR TEENS

Major hiring event for young people comes to Workforce Center on March 16

(TRINIDAD) -- On Friday, March 16, the Trinidad Workforce Center will hold its second annual “Youth Rocks Trinidad,” a job fair for teens. The event will connect young people between the ages of 15 and 21 with a wide variety of job opportunities. Although school hasn’t let out for the summer yet, it’s not too early to make plans for a summer job.

Whether you’re ready to line up a summer job or simply want to explore your options, you’ll find employers at this event who will be interested in talking with you.

The Youth Rocks Trinidad Fair

Date: Friday, March 16
Time: 10 AM to 12 Noon
Location: Trinidad Workforce Center
140 North Commercial St.

The Trinidad Workforce Center will also offer a “virtual” job fair on March 16 and 17 for teens who cannot attend the “brick and mortar” version. “We’ve produced hiring events for many years,” says Ellen Golombek, Executive Director of the Department of Labor and Employment,

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“and recently we have offered a virtual job fair in the Pueblo area. This will be the first one we have produced for teens. It’s a high impact medium and we think young people will appreciate being able to learn about job opportunities and interact with employers online.” To visit the virtual edition of the hiring event, register online at www.connectingcolorado.com.

The online version of Youth Rocks Trinidad was developed by the Department of Labor and Employment’s Special Projects Unit which focuses on education and training services for Colorado businesses and job seekers. The Special Projects Unit offers on-the-job-training, internships, services to businesses, veterans, youth, and clients with obstacles to employment. The unit also provides many employer/job seeker services through the www.ConnectingColorado.com website and education and training services through the www.e-Colorado.org web portal.

While the outlook for employment has improved over last summer, things haven’t improved to the point there won’t still be challenges ahead and a job fair designed for teens is critical in these tough economic times. “With today’s labor surplus, they give young people a jump on the competition,” says Betty Velasquez, director of the Workforce Centers in Southern and Southeast Colorado. “Many employers are already putting their summer workforce into place. The competition can be fierce and the best jobs get taken early so if you want to secure a great summer job you can’t wait for summer. You need a head start.”

The value of a job fair specifically for youth is obvious to any young person who has tried landing a job without some help. Making cold calls on businesses that aren’t hiring is demoralizing and even if there are some seasonal openings, teens are typically the last link in the hiring chain. It’s the Catch-22 faced by millions of high school and college students searching for summer employment. Companies are reluctant to hire teens with little or no work history. But without a job to prove themselves, young people lack the experience necessary to jump-start a career.

Faced with those obstacles, the Youth Rocks Trinidad job fair is like a life-line to the future. The free event is a fast and efficient way to connect with a diversity of participating businesses. Whether your dream job is working in an office, a retail outlet or a restaurant or outdoors at a golf course or state park, you’ll find opportunities with private and public sector employers at Youth Rocks Trinidad.

Sheri Files of the Trinidad Workforce Center advises students to make a good first impression. “Dress appropriately, be personable and ready to summarize your skills,” she stresses. “The goal is to let employers know what you have to offer. If you’re prepared, you could walk out of the Workforce Center that Friday with a great summer job. And that will mean extra spending money, a boost to your résumé and an opportunity to garner valuable work experience while out of school.”